

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 and 33-36 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 33-35 without introducing any new matter.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-30 were allowed.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

In response to the rejection of Claims 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Claims 33-35 are amended to better point out the claimed subject matter regarded as Applicant's invention. In particular, Claim 33 is amended to recite that the first atom is stabilized at the at least three positions, and that the data is held by applying at least three different directions of an electric field, the electric field being in parallel to the two-dimensional plane. These features find non limiting support in Applicant's disclosure as originally filed, for example at page 26, lines 3-14, and in Figures 7B, 9, 11 and 12.

Claim 34 is amended to recite that the first atom is stabilized at the at least three positions, and that the data is held by applying at least three different directions of an electric field in the three-dimensional plane. These features find non limiting support in Applicant's disclosure as originally filed, for example from page 13, line 16, to page 14, line 22 and in Figures 1-6, 8 and 10.

Claim 35 is amended to recite that the ferroelectric element includes first, second, third and fourth electrodes, and is further amended to recite "a first atom in the ferroelectric element is shifted to four positions, and is stabilized at the four positions by a first bias between the first and second electrodes and a second bias between the third and fourth

electrodes." These features find non limiting support in Applicant's disclosure as originally filed, for example from page 37, line 12 to page 38, line 24 and in Figures 15A-C.

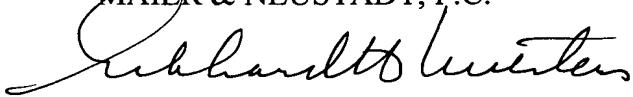
In view of amended Claims 33-35, it is believed that all pending claims are definite and no further rejection on that basis is anticipated. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually acceptable language.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-30 and 33-36 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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